

Listing of Claims:

a, 1. (currently amended) Gray cast iron alloy for a friction element of a friction clutch having a friction surface for frictional contact with a clutch disk, wherein the alloy contains:

- 3.0 – 3.4 percent by weight C;
- 1.8 – 2.3 percent by weight Si;
- 0.4 – 0.8 percent by weight Mn;
- 0.0 – 0.35 percent by weight P;
- 0.0 – 0.125 percent by weight S;
- 0.4 – 0.6 percent by weight Mo; and

a remainder comprising iron and production-related impurities and/or additives,
and wherein the alloy exhibits frictional characteristics suitable for a friction element of friction clutch.

2. (original) A friction element for a friction clutch having friction surface for frictional contact with a clutch disk, wherein said friction element is formed of flake graphite alloy comprising:

- 3.0 – 3.4 percent by weight C;
- 1.8 – 2.3 percent by weight Si;
- 0.4 – 0.8 percent by weight Mn;
- 0.0 – 0.35 percent by weight P;
- 0.0 – 0.125 percent by weight S;

0.4 – 0.6 percent by weight Mo; and

a remainder comprising iron and production-related impurities and/or additives.

3. (original) The friction element of claim 2, wherein said friction element comprises a pressure plate.

4. (original) The friction element of claim 2, wherein said friction element comprises a flywheel mass part.

5. (original) The friction element of claim 2, wherein said friction element comprises an intermediate plate of a multidisk clutch.

6. (original) The friction element of claim 2, wherein said friction element is cast and stress-relief annealed at a temperature within a range including 450°C to 600°C for a period of at least 2.5 hours after casting.

7. (original) The friction element of claim 6, wherein said friction element is stress-relief annealed at a temperature within a range including 500°C to 550°C for a period of at least 3 hours.

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8. (original) The friction element of claim 3, wherein said friction element is cast and stress-relief annealed at a temperature within a range including 450°C to 600°C for a period of at least 2.5 hours after casting.

9. (original) The friction element of claim 8, wherein said friction element is stress-relief annealed at a temperature within a range including 500°C to 550°C for a period of at least 3 hours.

10. (original) The friction element of claim 4, wherein said friction element is cast and stress-relief annealed at a temperature within a range including 450°C to 600°C for a period of at least 2.5 hours after casting.

11. (original) The friction element of claim 10, wherein said friction element is stress-relief annealed at a temperature within a range including 500°C to 550°C for a period of at least 3 hours.

12. (original) The friction element of claim 5, wherein said friction element is cast and stress-relief annealed at a temperature within a range including 450°C to 600°C for a period of at least 2.5 hours after casting.

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13. (original) The friction element of claim 12, wherein said friction element is stress-relief annealed at a temperature within a range including 500°C to 550°C for a period of at least 3 hours.

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